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Department of Defense Directive

SUBJECT Medical Care for Foreign Personnel Subject to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA)

- Refs: (a) Agreement Between The Parties To The North Atlantic Treaty Regarding The Status Of Their Forces, June 19, 1951.
(b) DoD Directive 6010.4, "Dependents' Medical Care".
(c) DoD Directive 6310.2, "Medical Care for Foreign NATO Personnel", June 23, 1952, (hereby cancelled).
(d) DoD Directive 6310.5, "Medical and Dental Care of Canadian Military Personnel and Their Dependents", March 5, 1956, (hereby cancelled).

I. PURPOSE

This Directive implements Paragraph 5, Article IX, of reference (a) (quoted in Section V. A.) authorizing medical and dental care for certain personnel of the NATO SOFA States stationed in or passing through the United States in connection with their official duties.

II. CANCELLATION

References (c) and (d) are hereby superseded and cancelled.

III. DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Directive, the following definitions [extracted from Paragraph 1, Article I, of reference (a)] apply:

- A. "Force" means the personnel belonging to the land, sea or air armed services of one Contracting Party when in the territory of another Contracting Party

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in the North Atlantic Treaty area in connexion with their official duties, provided that the two Contracting Parties concerned may agree that certain individuals, units or formations shall not be regarded as constituting or included in a "force" for the purposes of the present Agreement.

- B. "Civilian component" means the civilian personnel accompanying a force of a Contracting Party who are in the employ of an armed service of that Contracting Party, and who are not stateless persons, nor nationals of any State which is not a Party to the North Atlantic Treaty, nor nationals of, nor ordinarily resident in, the State in which the force is located.
- C. "Dependent" means the spouse of a member of a force or of a civilian component, or a child of such member depending on him or her for support.

IV. APPLICABILITY AND SCOPE

The provisions of this Directive apply to the military departments, and cover medical and dental care provided in Department of Defense facilities, other Federal facilities, and civilian facilities in the United States. They do not cover any medical care obtained from civilian sources prior to July 1, 1963.

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. Eligibility

"When a force or a civilian component has at the place where it is stationed inadequate medical or dental facilities, its members and their dependents may receive medical and dental care, including hospitalisation, under the same conditions as comparable personnel of the receiving State", at military expense from Department of Defense, other Federal, and civilian sources.

B. Sponsoring Department

For identification and budget purposes, Department of Defense sponsorship will be as follows:

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1. Foreign Army personnel, accompanying civilian personnel, and dependents of both--Department of the Army.
2. Foreign Naval and Marine personnel, accompanying civilian personnel, and dependents of both--Department of the Navy.
3. Foreign Air Force personnel, accompanying civilian personnel, and dependents of both--Department of the Air Force.

C. Identification Cards

The sponsoring military department will issue to each eligible foreign person a Department of Defense Identification and Privilege Card, showing thereon the services authorized and an expiration date.

D. Reimbursable and Nonreimbursable Medical and Dental Care

1. Department of Defense Facilities. Each military department will provide medical and dental care in its own facilities to eligible foreign personnel without regard to sponsorship, and without reimbursement between military departments.
2. Civilian and Other United States Government Facilities
 - a. Each military department will budget for the medical and dental care it anticipates will be furnished to eligible foreign personnel under its sponsorship in civilian and United States Government facilities other than military. Payment procedures and rates shall be the same as those used for United States personnel.
 - b. In accordance with reference (b), the Secretary of the Army /as Executive

Agent for implementation of Section 1079 (a), Title 10, United States Code, within the United States and Puerto Rico/ shall be responsible for (1) preparation of reimbursement vouchers for the cost of care in civilian facilities authorized by all of the military departments; and (2) for submission of such vouchers to the authorizing department. The Department of the Navy and the Department of the Air Force shall reimburse the Department of the Army on receipt of the vouchers in the same manner and at the same rates as prescribed for care authorized for United States personnel.

VI. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive becomes effective immediately for planning purposes, and on July 1, 1963 for implementation. Three (3) copies of military department implementations shall be forwarded to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower) no later than June 1, 1963.

Howard Lipset
Deputy Secretary of Defense

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